

PATENT

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I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Box Non-Fee Amendment, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: March 7, 2001


Himanshu S. Amin

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:

Applicant: Yedur, *et al.*

Serial No: 09/729,513

Filing Date: December 4, 2000

Examiner: Unknown

Art Unit: Unknown

Title: USE OF SCANNING PROBE MICROSCOPE FOR DEFECT DETECTION AND REPAIR

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Entry of this preliminary amendment is respectfully requested prior to performing substantive examination of the above-identified patent application.